

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-20 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-10 and 12-20 stand rejected. Claim 9 has been cancelled, and Claims 1, 12 and 19 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the application, drawings and claims as originally filed and, as such, no new matter has been presented. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10 and 12-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Palm (U.S. Pat. No. 5,183,357). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to amended independent Claims 1 and 12. These claims have been amended to include the limitation that the stem has a first cylindrical portion adjacent to the head having a generally constant diameter, a second cylindrical portion having a second constant diameter greater than the first diameter. Applicant notes that the Palm reference has a threaded mandrel which must be rotated to pull the mandrel to collapse the body portion of the rivet fastener of the Palm reference.

The Examiner's attention is further directed to independent Claim 19 which has been amended to include the limitation that the mandrel has a first portion disposed adjacent to the shoulder portion, said first portion defining a cylindrical surface having a generally constant diameter. Claim 19 further includes the limitation that the elongated tubular body has a constant inner diameter. Applicant respectfully submits that the

Palm reference teaches a threaded inner body surface and a threaded mandrel and, as such, fails to teach these limitations.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1243.

Respectfully submitted,

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